

## Community Bands Together 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Marches On

Thanks to the generosity of Boston Scientific, the Fremont community can look forward to celebrating 4<sup>th</sup> of July this year with a parade in Warm Springs. Boston Scientific, a maker of medical devices with offices in Fremont, generously donated \$25,000 for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.



*Float in 2002 parade.*

The donation could not have come at a better time. After the Fremont City Council eliminated funding for the parade due to the severe budget crisis facing the City, Warm Springs community members joined together to organize the parade on their own. Fundraising efforts were initially met with frustration, as the current economy is one where many businesses are not in a position to donate money. Just at the point when a decision on whether to continue moving forward was necessary, things turned around thanks to Boston Scientific.

When times are tough, it takes the community to come together to problem solve. That's exactly what happened for this year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade in Warm Springs!



### Parade Details

Warm Springs District  
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon, Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>  
Parade heads North from Mayten Way to Hackamore Lane on Warm Springs Boulevard.

## Cuts In Basic Services Made More Revenue Needed

Local revenue to pay for local services is down dramatically. For the third year in a row, the City is cutting spending to meet the realities of less money. Reductions have been made in all areas of the City's operation, including administration, human services, senior services, recreation, park maintenance, police, fire, and street maintenance. Fremont has traditionally operated with low revenues and low staffing levels compared with other cities. At the same time, the City has been highly efficient in performing services on behalf of the community.

The dramatic restructuring of the economy, which has been evident in Fremont over the past couple of years, has left the community with very limited resources from which to pay for basic community services. The City of Fremont's property tax revenue has never been sufficient to pay for even the most basic of our services. For instance, property tax revenue is not enough to even pay for our Police Department costs. Therefore, the City has relied on other revenue sources, such as sales tax, to support the Fire Department, maintenance of our parks and streets, and many of our essential land use planning functions. With the State's property tax takeaways over the last ten years, and the recent downturn affecting sales tax revenue, the City's ability to provide what the community has long been able to expect has been impaired.

In comparing our taxes with those of other neighboring communities, Fremont has fewer and lower taxes. For instance, Fremont does not have a utility users tax (as does Sunnyvale, San Leandro, Oakland, Berkeley, and many other cities). Fremont also receives a lower portion of the property tax paid locally than in other cities. The City of Fremont only keeps 15% of the tax bill paid by a Fremont property owner, while in Pleasanton, the city keeps 25%. This disparity is a result of the tax rate in effect at the time Proposition 13 was passed in 1978.

In addition, when compared with Oakland, Berkeley, Palo Alto, Pleasanton, Sunnyvale and Livermore, Fremont has the lowest revenue per capita, the lowest expenditures per capita, and the fewest employees per capita.

In a few months, the City will be conducting a poll to ask voters their opinions about new taxes to pay for important local services. One possibility is to raise the Paramedic Tax in order to cover more of the cost of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Currently, about 60% of calls into the Fire Department per year are EMS related. The existing Paramedic Tax is only \$13.14 per residence per year and barely covers 4% of the Fire Department budget. Another source of revenue could be a Utility Users Tax, to generate dollars for basic community services like police, fire and street maintenance. Watch for updates in future issues of *Fremont City News*.

## City Manager's Message



Like many organizations throughout Silicon Valley and California, the City of Fremont has made significant changes to live within its smaller budget. The continued economic downturn has dramatically reduced revenues needed for Fremont's basic services such as

police, fire, and maintenance of the community's parks and streets.

To supplement declining revenues, the City must continue to make drastic cuts well into our core services. Even with these cuts, you can still count on us to provide a safe and healthy environment. However, what you may notice are longer response times from City staff; the overall maintenance of streets and parks minimized to focus primarily on safety, and not on aesthetics; and fewer programs and services such as the loss of the evening meal served at the Senior Center.

As a resident, you are an important part of Fremont's solution to its budget shortfall. With every dollar you spend in Fremont, you directly affect the City's ability to maintain community services by generating vital sales tax revenue. Although the City's General Fund receives only 1% of the 8.25% sales tax that is collected on purchases (the State of California and other local agencies receive the other 7.25%), this adds up to over \$25 million annually. The purchases you make in Fremont, whether large or small, contribute to the quality of life we enjoy.

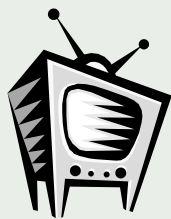
I encourage you to support your local businesses and help the City increase its revenues by remembering to shop in Fremont.

*Jan*  
Jan Perkins  
City Manager

### Watch TV Channel 27: Focus on Fremont

Tune in to learn more about what's going on in your community! View a schedule of Cable TV Channel 27 programming on the City's website at

[www.fremont.gov/CityHall/FremontChannel](http://www.fremont.gov/CityHall/FremontChannel)



## Did You Know...?

### Revenues Decline, Service Demand Continues

Even though Fremont's revenues are going down, service demand for essential core services such as police, fire, and facility and park maintenance continues. Over the past decade, citizens have come to expect their needs for basic services will be met. With the continued decline in revenues, the City must find new ways to keep up with the ongoing need to provide essential services.

### Police

In 1992, the activity levels (all incidents investigated by the police department such as traffic accidents, burglaries, etc.) were around 100,000 per year. In 2002, the activity levels increased to 130,000 per year.

### Fire

In 1990, there were 794 calls received by the Fire Department related to fires, and 9,291 non-fire calls associated with medical aid, rescues, false alarms, hazardous materials spills, and other situations. In 2002, there were 377 calls related to fires, and 12,490 non-fire calls. Over the past twelve years the number of fires in Fremont has dramatically decreased by 53%. However, the number of non-fire calls have increased by more than 3,000 calls per year.

### Maintenance

In 1990, the City maintained 40 parks equaling 808 acres of developed and undeveloped land, and 99 facilities equal to 432,819 square feet. In 2002, the numbers increased to maintaining 47 parks (845 acres) and 148 facilities totaling 931,542 square feet.

### False Alarms Waste Money

Fremont's Alarm Ordinance went into effect on April 1, 1998 to decrease the number of false alarm calls received by the Police Department. Every time an alarm call is received, two Police Officers must respond to either the home or business address. In its first year enforcing this ordinance, the Police Department received 9,939 false alarm calls which cost the City approximately \$407,500 in Police Officer time to respond. Three years later, there was a 32% decline in calls from the base year, a reduction of 3,134 calls, which would have cost \$144,500. The money saved is equal to having 1.5 Police Officers working patrol instead of spending time responding to false alarms. Thank you to everyone who makes certain his or her alarms are in good working order!

### City of Fremont

The City Council meets the first, second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 3300 Capitol Avenue. (Study sessions are held on the third Tuesday of each month.) Meetings are broadcast over Cable TV Channel 27.

### City Council

Gus Morrison, Mayor  
Bill Pease, Vice Mayor  
Bob Wasserman, Steve Cho, Dominic Dutra  
Jan Perkins, City Manager

### Fremont City News

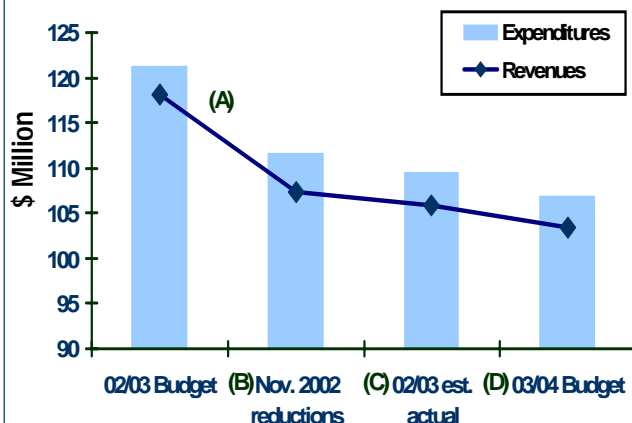
Cheryl Golden, Managing Editor  
*Fremont City News* is printed on recycled paper with soy inks.

# City Hall News



***Budget reductions beginning July 1, 2003 will reduce the number of City Staff by 20%. Efforts to maintain a safe and healthy community will remain a top priority as the City of Fremont restructures its organization.***

## Living Within our Means Budget Cuts



### NOTES:

(A) The City has responded to the revenue decline caused by the economic downturn with expenditure cuts. While the City transitions from a higher expenditure level to a lower one, savings from prior years are being utilized.

(B) For FY 2002/03, \$10 million was cut in November in response to a revenue shortfall in FY 2001/02 and worsening economic outlook.

(C) An additional \$2 million was cut this year, beyond the reduced, November 2002 budget level.

(D) The FY 2003/04 budget is \$14 million less than the FY 2002/03 budget.

## What You Can Do To Help

Fremont's revenues continue to slide due to the extended downturn of the economy. As the City makes budget cuts to live within our means, important core services you have come to expect are unfortunately being reduced or eliminated. As a resident, you are an important part of the solution. Your help is needed to strengthen the community/local government partnership for the long-term well being of Fremont.

Here are examples of ways you can help:

1. Voice your concerns by writing to Governor Gray Davis, State Senator Liz Figueroa or Assemblymember John Dutra at State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814, asking them to leave local government revenues intact.
2. If you have an alarm at your home or business, make sure your alarm permit is current. Please repair and maintain the alarm, and train your family and/or employees on the proper alarm procedures. It wastes

time and resources to respond to false alarms. For more information about the City of Fremont's Alarm Ordinance, check the Police Department's website at

**[www.fremontpolice.org/alarm/alarm.htm](http://www.fremontpolice.org/alarm/alarm.htm)**

3. If you're walking in a City park, and see litter on the ground, rather than walking on by, pick it up and put it into the trash can.
4. Shop and dine in Fremont!

If you have an idea of what citizens can do to help, please mail it to:  
City of Fremont, Office of the City Manager  
P.O. Box 5006  
Fremont, CA 94537-5006  
or send an email to:  
[Patrice.Jamison@ci.fremont.ca.us](mailto:Patrice.Jamison@ci.fremont.ca.us)

# Our Community



## Fremont Prepares to Celebrate National Night Out 2003

National Night Out is an annual event designed to strengthen neighborhood spirit and unity, and raise crime prevention awareness by helping neighbors get to know one another; it's the nation's block party night!

**This year National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 5 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** Fremont residents are invited to host a block party, barbecue, ice cream social or another activity held outside and involving one's neighbors. National Night Out events can be held anywhere, including single-family neighborhoods, townhouse complexes, in apartment buildings, or nearby parks. Last year Fremont residents hosted 101 parties – twenty-five more than the year before.

To register your event or learn more information, contact Community Engagement Specialist Geneva Wheeler at [gwheeler@ci.fremont.ca.us](mailto:gwheeler@ci.fremont.ca.us) or 790-6957. The deadline to register is July 18, 2003. Please include the following information when you register: name, address, home and work phone numbers, address or specific location of your event, and approximate number of people you expect to attend. A *Block Party Guide* is also available from the City of Fremont's Office of Neighborhoods. It provides practical tips for helping to organize a successful event. To receive a free copy, call 790-6740.

If you would like to block off the street for your event, you will need to complete and submit a Special Event Permit application; there is a \$20.00 application fee. The deadline for filing a Special Event Permit application is Friday, July 18, 2003. You may either download the application at

[www.fremont.gov/Permits/OtherPermits/SpecialEventsPermit](http://www.fremont.gov/Permits/OtherPermits/SpecialEventsPermit)

or pick one up at City Hall, 3300 Capitol Avenue, Building A, or the Development Services Center at 39550 Liberty Street. For more information on the permit application, contact the Development Services Center at 494-4487. (Please note a permit is not required for private streets.)

National Night Out is an enjoyable and productive way for people to meet each other and have fun. Consider hosting an event on August 5 in your neighborhood!

### The Price is Right in Fremont!

Visit the City of Fremont booth for prizes and valuable discounts from local businesses at the upcoming Festival of the Arts on July 26-27 in Downtown Fremont.

## Senior Service Program Seeks Donations

Do you qualify for the new garbage rate discount? If so, consider donating the amount you saved to the City's Senior Services program. The savings from this discount could be up to \$242.16 per year depending upon your current level of service.

For 25 years, the City of Fremont has provided an incredible array of programs for seniors. Unfortunately, these programs are at serious risk of being eliminated due to the economic downturn and budget crisis facing the State of California and the City of Fremont. By donating the amount you save from the new garbage rate discount, you can help ensure the following services are available to seniors and their families:

- The Fremont Senior Center, which provides thousands of seniors with hot meals, health services, exercise, educational and recreational programs, and opportunities for socialization and volunteerism.
- In-home assessment of senior needs.
- Assistance in finding medical care, transportation, financial assistance and home delivered meals; all of which help seniors to safely remain in their own homes.
- Counseling for seniors and caregivers suffering from depression or struggling with life changes.



\*Seniors 70 to 79 years may be eligible for a 50% discounted service rate on 32 gallon garbage service and seniors 80 and above may be eligible for a 100% discount on 32 gallon garbage service level. To receive the new senior discount, you must be the head of household (i.e. utility bills for your address in your name, etc.) and be receiving single-family garbage service. For details and an application, please contact BFI at 657-3500.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation (Tax ID # 94-6027361) to support these services, please send a check payable to the City of Fremont c/o Human Services Department/ Aging & Family Services, P.O. Box 5006, Fremont, CA 94537-5006, or drop off your check at City Hall, 3300 Capitol Avenue, Building B; Human Services Department/ Aging & Family Services.

For more information about making a donation to the City's Senior Services Program, please contact Aging and Family Services Administrator Mary Anne Mendall at 574-2062. To learn more about the City's Senior Service Programs, check out the City's website at

[www.fremont.gov/Community/Seniors](http://www.fremont.gov/Community/Seniors)

# Neighborhoods

## Affordable Housing Bonds Support New Developments

The Redevelopment Agency issued Affordable Housing Bonds providing \$16.5 million for investment in new affordable housing throughout Fremont. Recent affordable housing ventures assisted by the Redevelopment Agency include Fremont Vista, which is under construction, and Fremont Oak Gardens. See articles below for more information.

The Affordable Housing Fund also supports apartment acquisition and

rehabilitation preservation of affordable housing, down payment loans for first-time homebuyers, and rehabilitation loans for single-family homeowners.

For information about Fremont's affordable housing programs, call the Office of Housing and Redevelopment at 494-4500, or visit the City's website at [www.fremont.gov](http://www.fremont.gov) and click on "Housing."

## Construction Started at Fremont Vista Retirement Homes

In March, heavy equipment broke ground at the future site of Fremont Vista Retirement Homes in Niles, a 100-unit senior residential care facility being developed by Horizon Vista Corporation. When completed, this 62,000 square foot facility will provide assisted-living services to seniors, and offer affordable and market-rate apartments. The Redevelopment Agency Affordable Housing Fund contributed \$2.38 million to assist with development costs.



*Architectural model of Fremont Vista.*

The project's estimated completion date is spring 2004. For more information, please contact Redevelopment and Housing Project Manager Bill Cooper at 494-4520 or [bcooper@ci.fremont.ca.us](mailto:bcooper@ci.fremont.ca.us).

## Fremont Oak Gardens Groundbreaking Ceremony

In May, Satellite Housing Inc. and the Bay Area Coalition of Deaf Senior Citizens held a groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate the start of construction of Fremont Oak Gardens, a 100% affordable rental housing development planned for 2791 Driscoll Road in Irvington. When completed, the facility will contain 51 one-bedroom apartments renting for approximately \$378-\$797 per month, depending upon one's income.

Fremont Oak Gardens is designed to meet the physical and social needs of seniors, and includes additional design features for residents who are deaf. The City of Fremont and the Redevelopment Agency have committed \$4.1 million to this project. Construction is scheduled to start in September with completion by November 2004. For more information, please contact Redevelopment and Housing Project Manager Bill Cooper at 494-4520 or [bcooper@ci.fremont.ca.us](mailto:bcooper@ci.fremont.ca.us).

## REDEVELOPMENT ROUND-UP

### Centerville Redevelopment Site

In February, the Fremont City Council, acting as the Redevelopment Agency, approved moving forward with requesting proposals from developers interested in building a mixed-use (retail/residential) project on the Centerville redevelopment site. This is a 6.5 acre site on Fremont Boulevard south of Thornton Avenue. Also approved was the demolition of vacant structures on this site including the Center Square property and the former "Mr. Corvette" location; demolition is scheduled for this fall.

The Redevelopment Agency received ten submittals of qualifications from interested developers, of which four have been selected to submit formal proposals by July. The Agency is expected to select a developer for the site in early September. For more information, please contact Redevelopment Project Manager Jennifer Andersen at [jandersen@ci.fremont.ca.us](mailto:jandersen@ci.fremont.ca.us) or 494-4648.

### Irvington Bay Street Design

Design of a new Bay Street in Irvington is underway. Elements include more on-street parking, landscaping, and pedestrian features such as benches and trash receptacles. Four property owners/business owners on Bay Street are heading up the effort, which is being funded by a Transportation for Livable Communities grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Redevelopment Agency. The project will also establish new development rights to encourage investment in the properties and businesses on the street. A detailed concept for the street improvements and new development rights should be completed by the end of the year. For more information please contact Redevelopment Project Manager Jake Lavin at [jlavin@ci.fremont.ca.us](mailto:jlavin@ci.fremont.ca.us) or 494-4428.

### Spend time at Quarry Lakes and the Niles Business District

This summer, take advantage of discounted admission to Quarry Lakes Regional Recreation Area. The City of Fremont and the East Bay Regional Park District have developed a coupon program providing a one-time, \$1 discounted admission to the recreation area, good from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The coupon is located on page 34 of the City of Fremont's Summer 2003 Recreation Guide. When you redeem your coupon, be sure to ask for brochures about the neighboring Niles business district. For additional information, please contact the Office of Housing and Redevelopment at 494-4500 or email [housingandredevelopment@ci.fremont.ca.us](mailto:housingandredevelopment@ci.fremont.ca.us).

# e n v i r o n m e n t

## "Three and Easy" Curbside Collection Program

### Frequently Asked Questions

If you have curbside collection service with BFI for garbage, recycling, and yardwaste (organics), get ready! You will be getting one new gray recycling cart that will replace the three blue recycling bins. Be sure to look inside the new gray recycling cart for your Kitchen Pail and information packet. Here are answers to some Frequently Asked Questions about the "Three and Easy" curbside collection service:



1 Recyclables

2 Organics

3 Garbage

recycling service efficiencies. Rates are expected to increase in January 2004 because of City Services (such as street sweeping, litter and debris removal from streets and medians), which will now be funded through the garbage rates. In addition there will be adjustments for cost of living increases and anticipated landfill disposal expenses.

**Q1: When will I get my new gray recycling cart and Kitchen Pail?**

A: Cart and pail delivery began on **June 9** and should be completed by **June 27**.

**Q2: When can I put out my new gray recycling cart and my green organics cart with food scraps?**

A: New automated recycling collection service will start the week of **June 30 – July 4** (on your scheduled collection day).

**Q3: When (and how) will the old blue recycling bins be collected?**

A: Old recycling bins will be collected **June 30- July 11**. A special truck will come around to collect the three blue recycling bins (please make sure they are empty) from curbside. The old bins will be recycled into new products.

**Q4: Why are we changing the curbside collection program?**

A: The City is changing from three recycling bins to one wheeled cart for two reasons: 1) the wheeled cart is more convenient for residents since they will no longer need to sort recyclables or lift bins, and 2) to decrease garbage and increase recycling by expanding the type of plastics accepted and by adding food scrap and food-soiled paper collection. This will help Fremont achieve our goal of 75% waste diversion from the landfill by 2010 set by Alameda County voters. With your help, the City is currently at 64% diversion.

**Q5: Are my rates going up to pay for these new recycling services?**

A: No. Since January 2003, customers have been receiving an approximate \$1.00 per month rate decrease because of these new

**Q6: What new materials can go in the recycling cart?**

A: In addition to plastics marked  and , containers marked , , , , and  can now be recycled. Look for the number on the container with the recycling triangle around it.

**Q7: What new materials can go in the organics cart?**

A: In addition to yardwaste, all food scraps and leftovers can go in the organics cart. Examples include: fruit (from your yard and kitchen), vegetables, cheese, meat, bones, poultry, seafood, bread, rice, pasta, coffee grounds, filters, and teabags; and food-soiled paper products including pizza boxes, napkins, paper towels, paper egg cartons, and uncoated paper plates and cups.



**Q8: Why should I collect food scraps in the organics cart instead of putting it in my garbage cart or garbage disposal?**

A: Food scraps and food-soiled paper is heavy and bulky, making up about 20% of the residential waste in Fremont. Keeping this material out of our landfill and converting it into compost will help us reach Fremont's goal to reduce waste by 75%. In addition, food scraps produce higher quality compost--two bags of compost are returned to residents each Spring at the annual Compost Giveaway. You can also save electricity and water by using your garbage disposal less frequently (liquids should still go in the garbage disposal).

# t a l s e r v i c e s

## Q9: I'm concerned about mess, odors, and attracting pests with food scrap collection.

A: The Kitchen Pail may be lined with newspaper or paper bags. **(Please do not use plastic bags of any kind to line your pail--the plastic does not break down in the composting process, and contaminates the finished compost product.)** In addition, the pail may be washed with warm, soapy water--it is not recommended for dishwashers. You may empty the Kitchen Pail into the organics cart as often as you wish; the pail does not have to be full. One suggestion is using newspaper or a paper bag to wrap the food scraps, and then place the wrapped scraps in the organics cart. The organics cart will be collected at the curb weekly.



## Q13: I don't have space to store a Kitchen Pail.

A: The Kitchen Pail may be placed anywhere in your kitchen that is convenient (under the sink, counter-top, etc.). The pail also comes with a mounting bracket and can be hung under a counter or on a cabinet door. Or, just use a paper bag or newspaper to wrap the food scraps and put them directly into the organics cart.

## Q14: Why separate organics from recyclables if it all goes into the same truck?

A: The new collection trucks have split-body construction. There are two separate compartments divided by a metal barrier; the recyclable and organic materials are kept separate, and not mixed. (Look for the two hatch doors at the back of the collection truck).

## Q10: I don't have space to store another cart.

A: The new gray recycling cart has about the same size "footprint" as the old blue recycling bins (if you cross stacked your bins). If you put more in your gray and green carts (increase recycling and organics), you could request a smaller garbage cart to save space. Garbage carts are available in 20-\*, 32-, 64-, and 96-gallon sizes. \* Please note that the 20-gallon size cart is the same size as the 32-gallon cart. An insert is placed in the 32-gallon cart to make it smaller inside.

## Q11: Should I put my Kitchen Pail at the curb for collection?

A: No. The Kitchen Pail is for use in your kitchen to carry food scraps out to your organics cart. Please empty the contents into the green organics cart (for collection on your scheduled collection day) and take the pail back inside for reuse.

## Q12: I don't have enough space at my curb to set out all three carts and leave the necessary 18" between them, or people have their cars parked on the street, and there's no room for the carts.

A: You may put your cart(s) on your driveway entrance near the curb. You may also put your green cart out the way you did in the past and "double-park" your new gray recycling cart in front of the green cart (the hinges of both carts should face your house).



Two-gallon Kitchen Pail for food scraps.

## For More Information

- ✓ Check the information packet located inside your new gray recycling cart.
- ✓ Visit the new BFI website at [www.BFIfreemont.com](http://www.BFIfreemont.com)
- ✓ Call the City of Fremont Hotline at 494-4741 (recorded information only).
- ✓ Call BFI Customer Service at 657-3500.

# *You Count On Us...*



## *We'd Like to Count On You!*

With every dollar you spend in Fremont, you benefit local businesses and help keep our local economy strong. What you may not know is you also directly affect the City's ability to maintain basic services such as Police, Fire, and Street and Park Maintenance.

Without sales tax revenue, the City of Fremont could not support essential basic services to maintain a safe and healthy environment for our community. ***The purchases you make in Fremont, whether large or small, really do contribute to the exceptional quality of life our residents enjoy.***

Make Fremont your top shopping and dining choice.  
It's the best value for your money and for your community.

## *Shopping in Fremont Counts!*

